

**Listing of Claims**

1.-8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) A method for identifying a compound that modulates cellular proliferation, the method comprising the steps of:

(i) contacting the compound with a SAK polypeptide, the polypeptide encoded by a nucleic acid that encodes ~~a~~<sup>the</sup> SAK polypeptide having at least 95% sequence identity to of SEQ ID NO:2, the polypeptide having serine/threonine kinase activity; and

(ii) determining a functional effect of the compound upon the SAK polypeptide, wherein the functional effect is determined by measuring kinase activity of the SAK polypeptide, which indicates that the compound modulates cellular proliferation.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the functional effect is measured in vitro.

11.-23. (Canceled)

24. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein modulation is inhibition of cellular proliferation.

25. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein modulation is inhibition of cancer cell proliferation.

26.-31. (Canceled)

32. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the polypeptide is recombinant.

33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, wherein the polypeptide is encoded by a nucleic acid comprising SEQ ID NO:1.

34. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the compound is an antibody.

35. (Canceled)

36. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the compound is a small organic molecule.

37. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the compound is a peptide.

38. (Original) The method of claim 37, wherein the peptide is circular.

39.-50. (Canceled)